Suddenly
from heaven
there came a sound
like the rush of a violent
wind, and it filled
the entire house
where they were sitting
Acts 2:2

Soundings

News and Information from the
Northwest Washington Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 22 Number 4 *April 2005*

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Mission Shaped Church Learning Party

by Pastor Karen Ward, Church of the Apostles

The emerging church movement is re: shaping church for mission.

Learn how a similar reshaping can take place in your congregation. **Glimpse** what *off map* and *post-box* forms of church can look like. **Move** beyond *traditional* and 'contemporary' worship. **Explore** fresh worship for today's culture and generations. **Discover** how mainline congregations can get involved in the emerging church. **Experience** ways to integrate arts and new media technologies into worship and mission. **Bring Others** from your church to this Learning Party with you!

Journey **accompanied** by native postmodern tour guides from emerging church communities: Apostleschurch.org, Seattle, www.apostleschurch.org and Moot, London (U.K.) www.moot.uk.net.

In the context of an experiential Kingdom **party,** explore the emerging church and learn new ways to **re-shape church** for the contours of mission in today's culture.

Mission Shaped Church Learning Party takes place from, 2 to 8 p.m. on April 17 and includes dinner. Event site is Gloria Dei, Lutheran, Lynnwood. Register online at http://missionparty.mollyguard.com.

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Synod Assembly Update

The Northwest Washington Synod Assembly will be held on Friday, May 20, and Saturday, May 21, at the Everett Events Center.

Information is now available on the synod website at www.lutheransnw.org. The 2005 Synod Assembly page includes links to registration forms, keynote speaker information, agenda, resolution and nomination forms, and key dates. You will also find directions to the Events Center as well as a list of restaurants close to the Center.

Deadline for registration was March 1. If you have not registered, please register now. Due to the available space inside the plenary room round tables will be provided for all voting members. During the day coffee will be provided, but lunch is on your own. Expect to pay for parking on Friday, with street parking available on Saturday.

Dr. Patricia O'Connell Killen, professor of religion at Pacific Lutheran University, will be our keynote speaker on Friday, May 20. The Rev. Stanley Olson, Executive Director, Division for Ministry, will be the churchwide representative.

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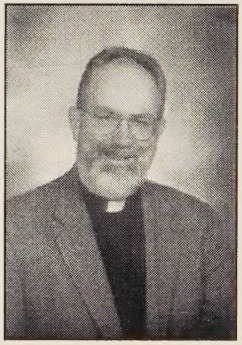
Deadline for the May/June 2005 issue of Soundings and The Spirit is Monday, April 4. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; margit@lutheransnw.org; 425-299-6667; fax 360-435-5955.

Permission is granted for congregations to copy Soundings and The Spirit. Newsletters are available to download at www.lutheransnw.org.

A Word From The Bishop



The Reverend Chris Boerger

Several months ago I asked you to invite me to meet with your congregation councils. I had four questions that I wanted to ask in order to engage in a discussion of our mission in this synod. The process of asking these questions continues. If I have not been invited to meet with your council, I ask for an invitation. It is the last question that serves as the focus of this column.

Most of the 22 councils with whom I have met do not know what the synod does. The question of how is the synod spending our benevolences is most common. The issues of communications of what we are doing are a strong second. Lastly, the question of what is the purpose of the synod is not clear.

I take these responses seriously. It is true that the synod office (i.e. the bishop's office) is often seen as the office of the principal or of the physician. We call the office when we need discipline or a diagnosis. Most of what the synod office does is in this arena. But the synod is not only the six staff people.

I have said repeatedly that the synod is the more than 50,000 baptized members of our 111 congregations. Each of you is a member of the Body of Christ, the ELCA, the Northwest Washington Synod, and the congregation in which you worship and serve. Together, we support the sending of missionaries, the starting and transforming of congregations, the training of leaders and the care of the hurting.

Locally, we advocate in Olympia and through the work of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy. We identify and support future leaders of this church through our candidacy committee. We are just beginning to ask the question of how we will start new ministries on our own in consultation with the Division of Outreach. We support one another through the use of Interim Ministry during times of pastoral transition. We are learning to assist and coach one another through the use of the Natural Church Development Process. We have trained leaders in the Healthy Congregations process. Our Anti-Racism team is vastly under utilized in its desire to help us confront the sin of racism. This is just the surface of a vast number of ministry opportunities which the synod tries to address.

This is just the beginning of a litany of potential work we can do and are doing together in Jesus' name. One of my frustrations is the limited participation in these synod activities. Our purpose is not to create more work for stretched congregations. Our purpose is to pool the gifts God has given the members of this synod for building up the body of Christ. I look forward to our continued work together.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind--as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you--so you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 1:4-7

Final Report from Lutheran - Roman Catholic Dialogue

by Dr. Rocky Piro, Ecumenical Commission Chair

Lutherans and Roman Catholics have been involved in formal dialogues here in the United States for over 30 years. There have been ten rounds of dialogue to date, covering topics such as the historic creeds of the church, baptism, holy communion, ministry, the papal office, justification, Mary and the saints, scripture and tradition. The final report from the latest round, titled *The Church as Koinonia of Salvation: Its Structures and Ministries,* was released in 2004.

"Koinonia" is a Greek word for "communion," which is used in the New Testament to designate the church's unity in faith, sacraments and decision making. The latest dialogue focused on explaining how the two traditions view the roles of pastors and bishops and of congregations and dioceses – what the two churches have in common and how they differ. The report concludes "that salvation by God's grace is indeed experienced and shared in each other's churches" and "that the ministries of 'pastor' and 'bishop' are established by God in service to that communion of salvation with God and each other."

The Common Statement also includes a series of recommendations for the two churches to consider that advance actions that can begin to be taken together to move forward in greater cooperation in witness and ministry to the world. The final recommendation offers specific forms of possible pastoral collaboration between Lutherans and Roman Catholics:

1. Common activities among Lutheran and Roman Catholic bishops, such as regular joint retreats, co-authored pastoral letters on topics of mutual concern, and joint efforts on matters of public good.
2. Mutual activities be intensified among ordained ministers, such as regular retreats, homily or sermon preparation study, participation in non-eucharistic prayer services and weddings, and common sponsorship of events or services in the life of the church.
3. Members of neighboring parishes and congregations engage together in catechesis, evangelization, peace and justice ventures, social ministry, and attendance at each other's diocesan and synodical assemblies.
4. Social ministry organizations, educational institutions, chaplaincies, and other church agencies engage together in activities that further the gospel and the common good. (§122, The Church as Koinonia of Salvation, 2004)

The full text of the final report is now available on line at: www.elca.org/ecumenical/ecumenicaldialogue/romancatholic/Koinonia.pdf

Information on the U.S. Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialogues, including links to various resources, is available at: www.elca.org/ecumenical/ecumenicaldialogue/romancatholic/index.html.

Proposal for Interim Eucharistic Sharing

by Dr. Rocky Piro, Ecumenical Commission Chair

One of the actions likely to be considered at the August 2005 Churchwide Assembly in Orlando is a proposal to establish eucharistic sharing among members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the United Methodist Church.

U.S. Lutherans and United Methodists have been in dialogue since the 1970s. The two church bodies have produced common statements on baptism, the role of bishops, and recently on interim sharing of the sacrament of Holy Communion. The proposal was delivered to the Department for Ecumenical Affairs in August 2004 and has been sent to all eight ELCA seminaries for study and response. The ELCA Church Council will consider the proposal in April and make a determination regarding forwarding to the Churchwide Assembly. The Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church is scheduled to consider the proposal in September 2005.

Interim eucharistic sharing is a step to make more visible the unity the two traditions already share in their savior, Jesus Christ, while they continue to dialogue on additional topics, such as the work of the Holy Spirit in sanctification and understandings of ministry. If interim sharing is established, it will express that significant convergence already exists, even as the two church bodies work to develop an even closer relationship of common witness and mission in the world.

Methodist churches have their origin in the 18th Century renewal movement in the Church of England. John and Charles Wesley, two brothers who were Anglican priests, came to the America in 1735, where Charles served the British leadership in Georgia and John was a missionary to Native Americans. Their experiences in the colonies, along with contacts with other Christians, inspired them to attempt to energize ways in which the Christian faith was expressed and lived out in the church. Originally a lay movement focused on witness to the Gospel and ministry to the disadvantaged, Methodism experienced phenomenal growth and began to develop its own structures to deal with increasing membership from people who were previously unchurched.

Today the United Methodist Church has more than eight million members in 35,000 congregations. There is a General Conference for decision making on churchwide issues and its delegates are half clergy and half lay people. Methodists have been active in cooperative efforts with other Christians, both in the United States and globally.

Internationally the Lutheran World Federation and the World Methodist Council released a joint statement titled *The Church:*

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Eucharist Proposal

Community of Grace in the mid 1980s. Over the past decade, Lutherans and Methodists in Europe, together with Reformed churches have taken significant steps to deepen their relationships. In 1997, the Lutheran and Methodist churches in Norway established a full communion relationship. Locally, here in northwest Washington, synod officials report that there are already a number of Lutheran congregations engaged in joint ministry with Methodists.

For additional information, there are a number of resources on the web:

- The entire proposal for Interim Eucharistic sharing drafted for the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly is available at: www.elca.org/ecumenical/ecumenicaldialogue/unitedmethodist/Interim_Eucharistic_Sharing_Proposal_2004.pdf
- Information on the U.S. Lutheran – Methodist Dialogue, including a number of links to official statements by the United Methodist Church, is available at: www.elca.org/ecumenical/ecumenicaldialogue/unitedmethodist/index.html
- The official website for the United Methodist Church is at: www.unitedmethodist.org/

State Advocate's Corner

by The Rev. Paul Benz

206-464-4133
pbenz@lcsnw.org
www.lppowa.org

Greetings Advocates! By this time this reaches you the state legislature will only have about one month left (Amen to that!) in its 105 day session that began on Jan. 10.

The most critical issue before your three state legislators and the governor is how they will balance the budget. Which, if you haven't heard, is in the minus column by $2.2 billion. They only have four basic ways to balance the deficit: cuts in programs and services, raise taxes, a combination of these two, or "financial maneuvers" (meaning robbing Peter to pay Paul!).

Lutheran Public Policy Office (LPPO) urges you to use the state legislative hot line (1-800-562-6000) and to put it in your Sunday bulletin, or we can email it to you as an insert. You can leave messages for your three legislators and one for the governor, all at the same time, and the hours are generous – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. LPPO urges you to use the following message: Do no more harm. Do not balance the budget on the backs of the poor and vulnerable. If you have any questions or concerns about the budget, specific bills or issues call or email me or go to the state's excellent web site at www.leg.wa.gov.

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Legislative Process

Report and Recommendations from Task Force of the ELCA Studies on Sexuality

On January 13, 2005, the ELCA Studies on Sexuality Task Force publicly released its report and recommendations related to blessing committed same-sex unions and ordaining, consecrating or commissioning persons in such committed relationships onto the roster of the ELCA. (The report and background information may be found on the Synod's website at www.lutheransnw.org. Click on Faithful Journey.)

Individuals and congregations of this synod may respond to the report by communicating with the NWWA Synod Council prior to its next meeting on March 19. Synod Councils are invited to express their opinions through memorials to the ELCA Church Council prior to its meeting April 8-11. The Church Council will determine the recommended action to be placed on the agenda for the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, which will meet August 8-14 in Orlando, Florida.

The Northwest Washington Synod Assembly, which will meet May 20-21, may discuss and act upon resolutions that address the report and recommendations. Such resolutions must be submitted to the Synod Office by noon on May 9. Actions of the Synod Assembly may direct that such resolutions be forwarded to the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Important dates:

- March 19, 2005—NWWA Synod Council meets
- April 8-11, 2005—ELCA Church Council meets
- May 20-21, 2005—NWWA Synod Assembly
- August 8-14, 2005—ELCA Churchwide Assembly

Voting Members for the 2005 Churchwide Assembly

Voting members to the 2005 Churchwide Assembly from the Northwest Washington Synod were elected at the 2004 Synod Assembly. Alternates were also designated in case an elected voting members could not attend. (Alternates are those with the next highest number of votes.) A couple of voting members have had to step down, so the list has recently changed. To contact the voting members used the name listed below for that person with @lutheransnw.org:

- Carlos Aguero, agurro@
- Rev. Chris Berry, berrycd@
- Rev. Ron Moe-Lobeda, moelob@
- Steven Chapman, schapman@
- Sharon Greenwood, greenwood@
- Dayna Hall (alternate), hall@
- Pam Kluth, kluth@
- Mark Kremen, kremen@
- Rev. Vic Langford, langford@
- Margit Peiffle, peiffle@
- Rev. Jack Richards (alternate), richards@
- Glenn Ryder (alternate), ryder@
- David Swartling (2005 CWA Parliamentarian), swartling@

Benefit Concert

American And Foreign Christian Union

Laurana Mitchelmore, pianist from Paris, France, will present a concert to benefit the American and Foreign Christian Union at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Avenue.

Mitchelmore is active in the musical life of the American Church in Paris, while maintaining her professional concert career. She studied with Adele Marcus at the Julliard School of Music, and with Dieter Weber at the Vienna Music Academy. Prior to her performance in Seattle she will accompany the mezzo-soprano, Frederica von Stade in a recital at Pacific Lutheran University on April 1, and in a master class at PLU on April 2. As soloist and accompanist, Mitchelmore has appeared with Metropolitan Opera and Vienna State Opera artists Arleen Auger, Judith Blegen, Jean Cox, William Blankenship, Ronald Hamilton, James King, John Shirley Quirk, and William Warfield.

The mission of the AFCU is to nourish and support international, English-speaking churches whose ministries bear witness to Jesus Christ. A free-will offering will be taken at the concert with proceeds to go to the American Church in Paris, the American Lutheran Church in Berlin, and the Vienna Community Church. For further information, call 425-514-0465.

Open Door Clinic in Bucharest

Come join other women at Denny Park Lutheran Church to hear Dr. Linda Hanson speak. She and her husband, Milt, are physicians at the Open Door Clinic in Bucharest, Romania.

The gathering is a Spring Brunch at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 14, at Denny Park Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 766 John Street, Seattle. (Corner of Dexter & John)

Reach out, invite and bring new friends, old friends, neighbors, mothers, sisters, aunts, granddaughters, classmates, the girl next door, daughters-in-law. All we ask of you is to make reservations by May 6. Call 206-623-7447 or e-mail dennyparklutheran@yahoo.com A free-will offering will be taken.

'Ordo' Music CD Available

Church of the Apostles mission (Fremont) has produced its first full-length CD of modern worship music ('taize meets moby' styled alt pop/rock). 'ORDO' contains 14 songs of fresh worship music and includes pdf 'leadsheets' for band and music leaders. $15.00 + postage. Order online at http://www.apostleschurch.org/cotastore.php.

karibuni (Welcome)

MaaSae Girls School Choir In Seattle

Karibuni. You are invited to welcome and to enjoy the singing of the MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School Choir of Tanzania.

As part of a multi-cultural event sponsored by Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., a 13-voice choir from the MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School in Monduli, Tanzania, is coming to the United States. Special arrangements were made for the choir to sing in the Seattle area.

- 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, at Trinity Lutheran College Chapel, 4221 228th Ave. SE, Issaquah.
- 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, at Glendale Lutheran Church, 13455 2nd Ave SW, Burien.

The MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School was founded 10 years ago due to concerns for the education and wholeness for Maasai girls. Traditionally, a Maasai girl is married after primary school to fulfill an arrangement her father made when the girl was very little in exchange for a number of cows. All of the choir members, aged 16-20, would have been married long ago, without possibility for refusal, if it wasn't for the school. With sponsorship from the United States and Europe, these girls now have a future with hope.

Jean Wahlstrom, Marvin Kananen, and Heather Clauson, ELCA missionaries from Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church, Bellevue, serve at the school. A freewill offering will be taken at the concerts. For more information, call Connie McConnell at 425-746-2529 to stay in, work the concerts, or help out in any way your schedule permits.

Carrying On The Tradition

Ever since Martin Luther, Lutherans have been known for some of the best choirs in the world. Wouldn't it be great if we had 100 kids in the 2005 Synod Assembly Youth Choir this year?

A youth choir has been invited to sing two pieces at the Assembly Eucharist Service. If you are in 1st through 9th grade, and would like to join the 30 or so who are already to sing at the assembly on May 21, and you are able to rehearse on Monday evenings in April from 5 -6 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (215 Mukilteo Blvd, Everett), please contact Marita Ericksen, director at 206-715-7126.

Or, if there is already a youth choir director in a congregation who would like to prepare their singers ahead of time and then bring them to the final two Monday rehearsals in May, that would also be fine.

Register with Marita and find out more details and expectations of the assembly choir. The youth chorus will sing Saturday, May 21, at the closing worship of the synod assembly at the Everett Event Center.

Let's carry on the tradition of great music in our church.

Our Companions in Ethiopia Continued Church Growth

By Fred Robbins, Ethiopian Companion Synod Task Force Chair

360-336-5050 or fred@robbinsmetal.com

Evangelism (good news). Racism (love your neighbor). God's people are global.

Re-read the *March Soundings* under *A Word from Our Bishop* where the Bishop says a word about racism. Let us lead in the diversity of our communities by supporting those people of color who are our brothers and sisters in Christ who are amongst us. The Companion Synod program continues to link congregations in the Northwest Washington Synod to the Ethiopian North Central Synod. Following is a recent letter from Dereje Jemberu, vice president of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. He shares with us the good news. May the Spirit of God move us to share his son Jesus. Thanks for listening.

Dear our beloved brothers in Christ,

How are you doing? I hope you are doing fine. I was at Dessie to give training to pastors and evangelists of evangelical church in the region. More than 137 have attended the three days training. There was also two days spiritual conference conducted by me, in which many have come. It was great joy to see 71 person (including Moslems) accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. I thank the Almighty God who really helped me to win souls to His kingdom. I shared the situation of Ben (Rev. Ben Bretheim, ret.) to all and have prayed together for him at the conference and also with pastors and evangelists.

On my return I had to attend the 17th General Assembly of EECMY; over 570 have attended the Assembly. Major constitutional changes and policy decisions were made by the Assembly. It has also elected its leaders to serve the church for the coming four years: Rev. Iteffa Gobena, president, and myself, vice-president. I therefore kindly request you to share this information to friends in Christ and keep us in your prayers.

With love, Dereje Jemberu

Summer Insitute

at Seattle University

The 2005 Summer Institute for Liturgy and Worship will take place July 10-15 at Seattle University, School of Theology and Ministry. *Holy Week in Such a Time as This: Fresh Insights for Ancient Forces.* Five days of reflections and new experiences that will enrich our understanding and practice of central events of our faith sotry and prepare us for Holy Week 2006. Registration fee is $400 and includes opening and closing receptions, printed materials, music for choral participants, and other items. Visit www.seattleu.edu/theomin/summerinstitute.html

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State Advocate's Corner

And in other news from this office:

We held our **Third Annual Lutheran Advocacy Day** on March 1 where more than 70 Lutherans gathered from as far away as Bellingham, Goldendale, Vancouver and Wenatchee. The morning event was held at Good Shepherd in Olympia where Bishop Martin Wells preached and the group was briefed on numerous health and human service issues before the legislature. That afternoon we were at the Capital where we heard from and interacted with leaders in the house and senate. Many individuals and congregational groups met with their legislators and two group meetings were help with the governor's budget and policy staff. All in all it was a great witness for the public Church!

The LPPO is holding their **Second Annual Fundraiser** under the theme *A Place at the Table*. The date is Sunday, May 1, and the time will be 4:30 to 7 p.m. A full dinner will be served along with a silent auction and a program sharing the highlights of Lutheran Public Policy Office. This year we gather in the fellowship hall of University Christian Church in Seattle (4731 15th Ave. N.E.) because we ran out of room last year with over 200 folks at St. John United in Seattle. To reserve your (and a friend's) place at the table email or call us at 206-464-4133 or at pbenz@lcsnw.org.

In The Region 1 Resource Center

Video Resources
In The Resource Center
To reserve videos, contact Region 1 at 206-624-0093, ext. 100

Discovering Everyday Spirituality with Thomas Moore (V–1383)—Thomas Moore's best-selling books have inspired millions to get in touch with the sacred in everyday life. This eight-part video series profiles a variety of people who have done just that. Series host Thomas Moore reflects on how, by following their example, we can all gain a truer sense of community, find greater satisfaction in our work and come to a deeper knowledge of what it means to be human.

Helping Thomas Moore point the way are authors Robert Fulghum and Kathleen Norris, screenwriter Dan Wakefield and a fascinating array of people from all walks of life.

Each video contains two episodes focusing on a different approach to *Discovering Everyday Spirituality*. The discussion leader's printed guide is full of suggestions to help viewers apply what they see to their own spiritual journeys. Each video is 25 minutes in length.

News and Notes

- **Pastor Mike Anderson,** Holy Spirit in Kirkland, was the keynote speaker at the kickoff event for the City of Kirkland's year-long centennial celebration. He also offered the opening prayer for a session of the Washington State Senate on February 16.
- On February 13, 2005, the congregation of **St. James in Seattle,** voted to end their 75 year ministry. The last service will be held on Sunday, May 1, when they will celebrate what God has done and will continue to do in the White Center area. The congregation members and Pastor Vern Holmes welcome your prayers as they work with the synod to accomplish the tasks and challenges they face in the closing of their church.
- **The three congregations in Edmonds; St. Peter by the Sea, Christ, and St. Matthew Lutheran Churches have consolidated** into a new creation on January 1, 2005, now being called the Edmonds Lutheran Church. As they explore how they might do ministry with the resources of three campuses and a coalition of creative dreamers and thinkers, they welcome the prayers of their partners in ministry in the Northwest Washington Synod.
- The **2005 Souper Bowl of Caring** has raised more than $3,755.033 from 10,482 organizations (as of 3/7/2005). Visit www.souperbowl.org for more information.
- The **Women of the ELCA Sixth Triennial Gathering** will take place from July 5 through 10 in San Antonio, Texas. Visit www.womenoftheelca.org and click on *Act Boldly* for more information.
- **Lutheran Men in Mission's National Gathering** will be held in Charleston, South Carolina, from July 22-24. The theme for this year's gathering is *Run the Race: Keep the Faith.* Visit www.elca.org/lmm.
- ***Glory to God Alone: The Life of J. S. Bach*** will be broadcast at noon eastern and pacific times on Palm Sunday, March 20, on the Hallmark Channel. More details at www.elca.org/co/mosaic/winter02.html. You
- The **ELCA worship staff invites** congregations to submit no more than two digital photographs that depict a variety of ministries in their unique community. Pictures received may be used in a montage before the opening liturgy at the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. Since these images will be projected in a very large room, close-ups of individuals or small groups are preferable. To be usable, all pictures must be landscape (that is, wider than taller), should have a minimum resolution of 72 dpi and 800x600 pixels. E-mail to worship@elca.org before the end of May.

Within Our Family

To Keep In Our Prayers...

† The family of **Margaret Seuren, mother of Donna Hoffman and mother-in-law of Rev. Paul Hoffman, Phinney Ridge, Seattle.** Margaret died on February 19.

† **Rev. Luther T. Gabrielsen (ret.) and his wife Dee** were in a serious car accident in late February. Pastor Gabrielsen is now at home. Dee has had several surgeries with an expected long recovery. Learning new to do new things. Cards can be sent to 2022 160th Pl SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012. The Gabrielsen's attend Advent in Snohomish.

† **Rev. Norris Stoa (ret.)** fell and broke his hip and he had to have surgery. He is now recovering. Cards can be sent to: Norse Home; 5311 Phinney Ave N; Seattle, WA 98103.

† **Rev. Chuck Davis,** Counseling Associates in Edmonds, is undergoing treatment and tests. Cards can be sent to: 18227 NE 176th St; Woodinville, WA 98072.

† **Rev. Ben Bretheim (ret.)** had surgery in February. Please keep both Ben and Hildur in your prayers. Cards may be sent to: 9105 Fortuna Drive, #8211; Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Prayers of thanksgiving for:

† **Rev. Jerry Buss, Oak Harbor in Oak Harbor,** as the radiation treatment was successful. He is now back at Oak Harbor.

And we continue to pray for:

† **Rev. Donna Reilly Williams.**

† **Rev. Robert Moylan (ret.)**

† **Rev. Jim Schoeld (ret.)**

† At the regular **Tuesday worship and synod staff meeting,** we pray for all of our pastors, churches and members. We pray for all those affected by the South Asia Tsunami. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in our companion synods in Ethiopia and Russia. May they find peace, love and happiness through knowing the grace of Jesus Christ and the love of God. We pray for the people of Iraq, Afghanistan, the Middle East and for all people experiencing concern. We pray for peace.

Within Our Family depends upon you—not only for prayers, but also for your prayer requests. Contact the synod office with any additions or changes to this column at office@lutheransnw.org or 206-783-9292, toll free 1-800-244-6997. This newsletter is shared among many people. The synod tries to limit personal information on the prayer list. Please consider contacting those on this list to let them know that you are holding them in your prayers.

Youth

WSYG (Western States Youth Gathering)—Just a quick reminder to let you know that there are still spaces available for the 2005 Western States Youth Gathering that will take place July 6-10 in Seattle. For additional information please check out the web site at www.wsyg.com.

Holden Youth Weekends are May 7-9; 14-16; 21-23; 27-29; and 29-31. Registration opened February 1. For registration forms, please visit www.elcaregion1.org/jaep. Questions? Contact: Jessica McKee, Co-Coordinator, jessica@messiahvancouver.org 360/574-7081. Emily Isensee, Co-Coordinator, memicansee@comcast.net 360/574-9029.

The SALLT (Service and Learning Leadership Training) Project will train over 100 young adults, 100 high school students and 70 adult youth leaders during the next two years. Funded by a grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, SALLT is a partnership between Trinity Lutheran College; Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center; Lutheran Community Services Northwest; Northwest Washington Synod Youth Ministries of the ELCA; campus ministries at PLU, UW and WWU; and the Lutheran Public Policy office of Washington. Participants will be trained to be "service mentors" for 2,500 high school youth at the Servant Day during the Western States Youth Gathering on July 8, 2005. Interested youth or adults are encouraged to contact Dave Ellingson at ellingson@tlc.edu or 425-961-5541 for additional information and an application.

Employment Opportunities

The Department for Human Resources of the ELCA is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Regional Coordinator/Deployed Churchwide Staff Region 7 Department for Synodical Relations/Division for Ministry
- Regional Gift Planner (Washington DC) - ELCA Foundation
- Area Ministry Stewardship Staff in the Southeast - Division for Congregational Ministries
- Finance Manager for the Youth Gathering-Division for Congregational Ministries
- Unit Accountant - Office of the Treasurer

For more information about the above positions please visit www.elca.org/hr/career. If you know of someone interested in any of these positions, contact: Letty Villalon, Director for Staffing, 773-380-2986; email careers@elca.org or letty.villalon@elca.org

Editor's Note: For the most up-to-date listing of transitions and mobility please visit our website at www.lutheransnw.org and click on Leadership. That website page is updated weekly, when necessary.

Transitions

	Location/Event	Effective Date
Anniversaries		
Gethsemane	Seattle, 125th Anniversary	
Calls Accepted		
Erik Kindem	Peace, Seattle	2/1/2005
Bjoern E. Meinhardt	Vashon, Vashon	12/1/2004
Marcus Stroud	Shepherd of the Hills, Concrete	1/2005
Consolidation		
Christ, St. Matthew and St. Peter by the Sea in Edmonds formed Edmonds, Edmonds		1/1/2005

Mobility

In Call Process	Position	Status	Current Pastor, Interim Pastor, or Supply Pastor
Bellevue, Cross of Christ	PR	TR	Tim Wolbrecht, Interim
Bellingham, Our Saviour's	PR	TR	James Miley, Interim
Burien, Glendale	PR	P	Douglas Stensby, Interim
Camano, Camano	PR	TR	Chris Anderson, Interim
Edmonds, Edmonds	PR	TR	Kathryn Buffum, James Kruse, Richard Wendt, Pastors
Everett, Faith	PR	TR	Arden Barden, Interim
Everett, Our Savior's	A	C	David Parks, Pastor
Mountlake Terrace, Bethesda	PR	TR	Steve Nelson, Interim
Renton, Cross & Crown	PR	C	Kate Schlechter, Supply
Seattle, St. Paul's of Shorewood	PR	TR	Gary Larson, Interim
Trinity, Point Roberts	PR	TR	Supply

Mobility Position Key:

PR = Pastor
A = Associate
AIM = Associate in Ministry
DM = Diaconal Minister
A/SP = Associate with Special Emphasis
contact Synod Office)

Mobility Status Key:

I = Interviewing
C = Calling
NV = New Vacancy
V = Vacancy
SC = Synod Call
TR = Transition process
P = Profile presented (receiving nominations)
TR/DO = Div for Outreach Transformation Process

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Soundings
April 2005